

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCS-03 SCA-01 /051 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/BR:AFWATSON:NLF

APPROVED BY ARA/BR:RJBALLANTYNE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BR

SUBJECT:PRESS GUIDANCE ON DETENTION OF FREDERICK B. MORRIS

REF: 1. JOHNSON-WATSON TELECON

2. STATE 250437

3. BRASILIA 2689

1. DEPARTMENT APPROVES MODIFICATIONS TO PRESS GUIDANCE
CONTAINED REFTEL 2 PROPOSED BY EMBASSY IN REFERENCED
TELECON.

2. NO QUESTIONS CONCERNING MORRIS WERE ASKED AT NOON PRESS
BRIEFING TODAY.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ASAP EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS
FOR REPLIES TO POSSIBLE PRESS INQUIRIES CONCERNING THE
ACCURACY OF MORRIS' ASSERTIONS ON TODAY SHOW THIS MORNING
THAT THERE ARE 12,000 POLITICAL PRISONERS IN BRAZIL AND
THAT 80 TO 100 THOUSAND PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TORTURED IN BRAZIL.

4. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WAS CITED BY MORRIS AS SOURCE OF
REPORT THAT POLITICAL PRISONERS IN BRAZIL NUMBER 12,000.

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IN COMMENTING ON THIS FIGURE, SHOULD STATE DEPARTMENT

DRAW UPON FIRST PARAGRAPH OF REFTEL 3 OR DOES EMBASSY
HAVE MORE RECENT INFORMATION?

5. MORRIS GAVE NO SOURCE FOR NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS
TORTURED, BUT LEFT VAGUE IMPLICATION IT MIGHT ALSO BE
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. HOWEVER, AI IN 1972 "REPORT
ON ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE IN BRAZIL" LISTED NAMES OF
1,081 PERSONS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN TORTURED. AI'S
1973 GENERAL WORLDWIDE "REPORT ON TORTURE" PROVIDES
NO ADDITIONAL SPECIFIC FIGURES BUT OBSERVES "TORTURE
IS WIDESPREAD AND IT CAN BE SAID TO CONSTITUTE
ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICE." INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PFOR, BR, US, (MORRIS, FREDERICK B)
To: BRASILIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005